CAPSULE SUMMARY BA-0216 Hunt's Methodist Church 1901 West Joppa Road Riderwood, Baltimore County 1874 Private

Hunt's Methodist Church, possibly the first Methodist church in the Greenspring Valley, was constructed between 1874 and 1877 as the third church erected by the congregation. The congregation dates to 1773, when members gathered at the home of Phineas Hunt for Methodist services that augmented services held at the Garrison Forest English Church. The early history of these two churches is intertwined, for members of the Methodist congregation also belonged to the local Church of England congregation. It wasn't until 1780 that the Methodist congregation broke from the older church and constructed a log chapel on land donated by Phineas Hunt. Four years later, the Methodist congregation separated from the Church of England. In 1826, a larger log church was constructed and used until the mid-1870s. Phineas Hunt died in 1837, and his name was given to the extant stone church, which was constructed between 1874 and 1877. According to prior documentation, the stonemason for the late 19th century building was David M. German and the carpenter was Thomas Burns. The 1874 church was enlarged in 1905 and then suffered a fire in 1933. The structure was rehabilitated after the fire and then enlarged and altered in 1982.

Hunt's Methodist Church is a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide building of solid random rubble stone construction. The rectangular building with a slate-tiled front gable roof was extensively altered in 1924 and 1982, resulting in a nearly total alteration of the building's original appearance. The 1874 wood frame spire with a sheet metal-clad roof remains at the front of the roof ridge. However, the original façade, or south elevation, has been obscured by a 1982 addition. The only elevation that definitely dates to 1874 is the west elevation. One interior chimney of random rubble stone construction rises from the roof near this elevation. The present façade features a recessed paneled double-leaf wood door with paneled recess and soffit and two multi-light fixed windows with splayed stone lintels. A small triangular louvered ventilator pierces the gable peak. The spire, which has a square base and octagonal walls, is pierced on four sides by round-arched louvered ventilators with molded wood surrounds. Stylized urns ornament the corners of the square spire base. Extending to the east is a late 20th century one-story wing with a stone colonnade. The nearby Boy Scout troop house is a one-story wood frame building that dates to 1931. The structure is clad in pressed vertical board siding and features an offset flush double-leaf wood door with a square-edged wood surround below a shed roof supported by log posts. The rectangular building has a side gable roof and one exterior chimney of solid coursed rubble stone construction.

### Inventory No. BA-0216

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of F	Property	(indicate preferred	name)				
historic	Hunt's Methodis	st Church					
other							
2. Location							
street and number	1901 West Jopp	a Road				not for	publication
city, town	Riderwood					vicinity	7
county	Baltimore Count	ty					
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailing	g addresses of al	l owners	)		
name	Hunt's Methodis	t Episcopal Church					
street and number	1901 West Jopps	a Road			telephone	Not Ava	ilable
city, town	Riderwood		state MD		zip code	21139	
4. Location	of Legal D	escription					
courthouse, registry	y of deeds, etc. B	Baltimore County Courthou	se	liber	Not Availab	e folio No	t Available
city, town	Towson	tax map 69	tax parcel	652	tax I	D number	0908800010
Contri Deterr Deterr Recore	buting Resource in mined Eligible for the mined Ineligible for ded by HABS/HAE ic Structure Report	n National Register District n Local Historic District he National Register/Maryla the National Register/Mary R t or Research Report at MH	land Register				
Category districtX_building(s)structuresiteobject	OwnershippublicX_privateboth	Current Function agriculturecommerce/tradedefensedomesticeducationfunerarygovernmenthealth care	landscaperecreationX_religionsocialtransportawork in prunknownvacant/no	/culture ation ogress	Resource Contribution -2 -2 Number o	ng Nor	ncontributing buildings sites structure objects Total

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Inventory No. BA-0216

Tropic No.		-	(ASY/78)	111	
Co		_1		-	
t.0	n	а	TT.	n	n

excellent	deteriorated
good	ruins
fair	X_ altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Dating to 1874, the extant Hunt's Methodist Church is a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay-wide building of solid random rubble stone construction. The rectangular building with a slate-tiled front gable roof was extensively altered in 1924 and 1982, resulting in a nearly total alteration of the building's original appearance. The 1874 wood frame spire with a sheet metal-clad roof remains at the front of the roof ridge. However, the original façade, or south elevation, has been obscured by a 1982 addition. The only elevation that definitely dates to 1874 is the west elevation. One interior chimney of random rubble stone construction rises from the roof near this elevation. The present façade features a recessed paneled double-leaf wood door with paneled recess and soffit and two multi-light fixed windows with splayed stone lintels. A small triangular louvered ventilator pierces the gable peak. The spire, which has a square base and octagonal walls, is pierced on four sides by round-arched louvered ventilators with molded wood surrounds. Stylized urns ornament the corners of the square spire base. Extending to the east is a late 20<sup>th</sup> century one-story wing with a stone colonnade.

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8. Signific	ance			Inventory No. BA-0216
Period 1600-16991700-1799 X1800-1899 X1900-19992000-	Areas of Significance  _ agriculture _ archeology X architecture _ art _ commerce	Check and ju  economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation	<ul> <li>health/medicine</li> <li>industry</li> <li>invention</li> <li>landscape architecture</li> <li>law</li> </ul>	_ science
Specific dates	communications community planning conservation	ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	literature maritime history military  Architect/Builder Unk	social history transportation other:
Construction da	ates 1874-1877, 1924, 19	82		
Evaluation for:	National Register	N	faryland Register	Xnot evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Hunt's Methodist Church, possibly the first Methodist church in the Greenspring Valley, was constructed between 1874 and 1877 as the third church erected by the congregation. The congregation dates to 1773, when members gathered at the home of Phineas Hunt for Methodist services that augmented services held at the Garrison Forest English Church. The early history of these two churches is intertwined, for members of the Methodist congregation also belonged to the local Church of England congregation. It wasn't until 1780 that the Methodist congregation broke from the older church and constructed a log chapel on land donated by Phineas Hunt. Four years later, the Methodist congregation separated from the Church of England. In 1826, a larger log church was constructed and used until the mid-1870s. Phineas Hunt died in 1837, and his name was given to the extant stone church, which was constructed between 1874 and 1877. According to prior documentation, the stonemason for the late 19<sup>th</sup> century building was David M. German and the carpenter was Thomas Burns. The 1874 church was enlarged in 1905 and then suffered a fire in 1933. The structure was rehabilitated after the fire and then enlarged and altered in 1982.

The land on which the extant church was erected comprised a portion of the early 18<sup>th</sup> century tract known as Beall's Discovery. Acquired by Walter Smith in 1730, the property passed to his widow, Elizabeth Chew, upon Smith's death. Elizabeth Chew then married Job Hunt, of Calvert County. Phineas Hunt, whose religious zeal gave rise to the formation of Hunt's Methodist Church, was one of four sons of Elizabeth Chew and Job Hunt. By 1850, Brooklandville was forming to the west and Rockland to the south. To the east, Riderwood was just beginning to take shape. Meanwhile, the Hunt family's land between these communities remained rural, a characteristic it has retained through the late  $20^{th}$  century.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Church History," http://www.gbgm-umc.org/hunts/history2.htm (24 May 2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0216

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.

"Church History." http://www.gbgm-umc.org/hunts/history2.htm (24 May 2001).

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	.50 Acre		
Acreage of historical setting	Unknown		
Quadrangle name	Cockeysville	Quadrangle scale:	1:24,000

#### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction in 1874, Hunt's Methodist Church has been associated with the two acrs of land known as tax parcel 652 of map 69 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

# 11. Form Prepared by

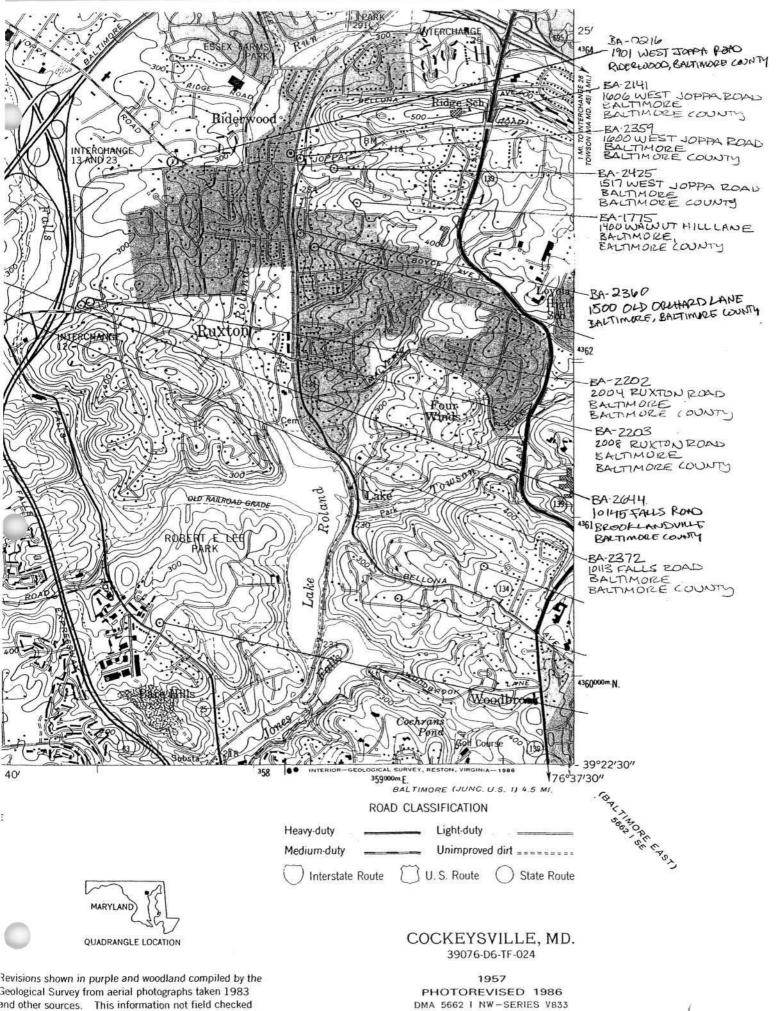
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 24, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600



Map edited 1986 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas DMA 5662 I NW-SERIES V833



BA-0216
1901 WEST JOPPA ROAD, RIDERWOOD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
4/2001
MD SHPO

of3

SW CORNER



BA-0216
1901 WEST JOPPA ROAD, RIDERWOOD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
4/2001

NE CORNER

MDSHPO

of3



BA-0216
1901 WEST JOPPA BOAD, RIDERWOOD
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD
TRACERIES
4/2001
MD SHPO

BOY SCOUT TROOP HOWE

of3

DA-216 HUNT'S METHODIST CHURCH - 1826-1933 - No. 1901 West Joppa road, Riderwood. The original church was built of logs c. 1772 when Methodism was in its infancy in Maryland. Located at intersection of Joppa and Old Court Roads, on land owned by Phineas Hunt, who had come to Baltimore County in 1761 and married Elizabeth Chew. Hunt's property included parts of Brooklandville,

### DISTRICT 9 (CONTINUED)

Riderwood, and Ruxton. Second church built 1826 and rebuilt on old foundation in 1874; enlarged 1905. Scharf reported a cornerstone laying on October 21, 1874, HBCC, p. 882. Following a fire, it was rebuilt in 1933 as Hunt's Memorial Methodist Church. Stone church in simple design, spire; old parsonage. The exterior is similar to the pre-fire appearance. The contractors in 1874 were David M. German, Stonemason, and Thomas Burns, Carpenter and Superintendent.

Form 10-445 (5/62) 1. STATE Maryland

COUNTY Baltimore Co.

TOWN Riberwood VICINITY Dist. IX

STREET NO. Joppa & Old Court Rds.

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE CHUTCH
PRESENT OWNER
PRESENT USE CHUTCH
WALL CONSTRUCTION
NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY BA - 214 216

2. NAME Hunt's Methodist Church

DATE OR PERIOD 1826 STYLE COLONIAL ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Original church built of logs about 1772 when Methodism was first established in Maryland. Built on land owned by Phineas Hunt, who came to Baltimore County in 1761 and married Elizabeth Chew. His property included parts of Brooklandville, Riderwood, and Ruxton. The church was partly burned in 1933, and the 2nd church was built in 1826, added to in 1874 and 1905. It was rebuilt in 1932 as Hunt's Memorial Church.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior

(Z)

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

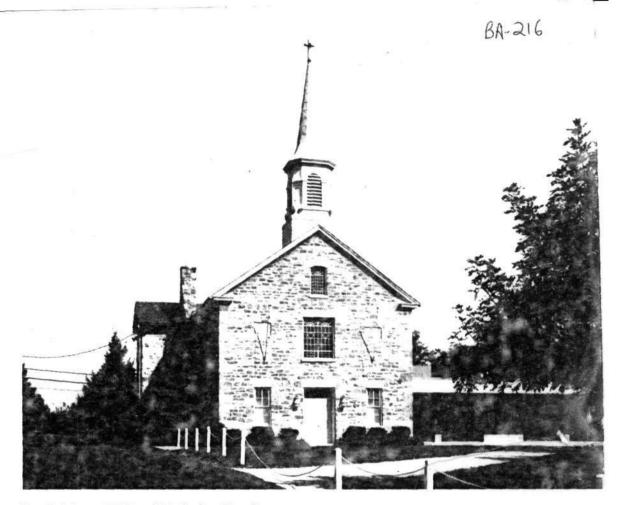
Sidelights of the History of Baltimore County. Edwin K. Gontrum, 1966, p. 13.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Baltimore Co. Hist. Soc. Agriculture Bldg. Texas, Md.

Second HABS report)

DATE OF RECORD March 20. 1968

409



Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church Photograph by Thomas W. Mele II

In 1968 the church became known as Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church, and this i official title today, though members and friends call it simply Hunt's Church. A bicentennial cele tion was held in October 1973 to pay tribute to the history and continuity of Hunt's Church.

This chapter has been devoted to those churches in existence in the Green Spring Valley be 1800, but others, some branching off from these early churches, appeared in the nineteenth and to tieth centuries. Among them are the following.

### -\*METTAM BAPTIST CHURCH

The Mettam Baptist Church near Old Court Road was the first church to be built in the then st community of Pikesville. The building is no longer used as a house of worship; instead, it serve an office for the Lions Club of Pikesville which restored it. 112

The history of Mettam Church began with the arrival in 1832 of Joseph Mettam and his far

Carpentry work. David German was the stone mason. The trustees at this time were Lewis J. Roberts, jamin Bowen, William C. Woods, Thomas Burns, and Alfred G. Lee. On Sunday, 19 July 1874, the last service was held in the old log church. The building was then torn down, and the members worshipped for a month in a house in "Mill Hollow," removing thereafter to a board tabernacle erected on the church lot until the new church was ready. 132

The cornerstone was laid on 20 October 1874 with both religious and Masonic ceremonies. A tin box was placed in the cavity of the stone containing an interesting assortment of items: a copy of the Holy Bible and Church Discipline; copies of the newspapers of the day, including the *Christian Advocate*, the *Christian Standard and Home Journal*, the *Baltimore Daily Sun*, and the *Baltimore County Herald*; two silver quarter dollars, five pennies, and one piece of German coin; a paper containing the names of the presiding elder, pastor, trustees, stewards, building committees, and officers of the lodge of Masons; and a program of the exercises.<sup>133</sup>

The church was dedicated on 5 August 1877 with the Reverend Dr. James A. McCauley, formerly a preacher at Stone Chapel and at Hunt's Church and now president of Dickinson College, preaching. The new structure was built on the foundation of the old log church and faced the present Old Court Road, this section of which was formerly known as Hunt's Lane. 134

Among the most active members of the church in the nineteenth century was Thomas Wright, owner of the Bleach and Dye Works near Rockland. He gave liberally of his money to various church enterprises, and at his death bequeathed \$2,500 to Hunt's Church. The church had been presented with a pulpit Bible in 1875 by J. M. Watkins of Towson, whose mother was a direct descendant of John Wesley's family. About 1896 Mrs. Sarah Evans donated a large church bell. 135

In 1905 Hunt's underwent extensive improvements costing approximately \$3,000. These included the installation of electric lights, painting the interior, and installing new pews and carpeting. Three years later Hunt's Church was finally made a station by Bishop Earl Cranston. On 25 and 26 September 29 this event and the church's 136th anniversary (dating from 1773) were celebrated. 136

During the ministry of the Reverend Howard E. Thompson a parsonage was built. Before it became a station such accommodation had not been necessary as none of the preachers were married men. Today this residence serves as an annex to the church and houses offices, a nursery, and meeting rooms. In 1961 under the Reverend Forest Forris a new parsonage was obtained in the Longford community.<sup>137</sup>

On 12 February 1933 Hunt's Church was totally destroyed by fire, apparently caused by an overheated furnace. According to a newspaper article describing the event, the fire also destroyed a portrait of Phineas Hunt and three memorials to him presented by his descendants (an illuminated cross, a baptismal font, and a stained glass window over the chancel). The article stated that "the records of the church, dating from 1785, are preserved in the parsonage" and thus were not destroyed by fire. Unfortunately, few of these records can be found today, nor have any records of the church prior to 1785 been found. One newspaper source claims these were lost, but it may well be that no records of meetings, births, deaths, or marriages were kept before 1785. Before the Revolution, vital statistics were recorded in the parishes of the Church of England.<sup>138</sup>

Once again a building committee was formed. The Lutherville Fire Department offered its building as a temporary church until a new church could be built. This contained many new features: an organ chamber; a front platform, pulpit, lectern, and altar rail; a stained glass window in the sanctuary; and classrooms and offices. The present stone building was completed and dedicated in 1933.<sup>139</sup>

Another fire occurred on 19 April 1962, necessitating a rebuilding program and another dedication in September of that year. Changes have continued to mark progress at Hunt's Church. A commemorary addition was built which houses various meeting noons torcuptes the site of the old stables.

among Robert Strambridge listemers

ch.

BR-216

By 1789 the Methodist city churches were separated from the county churches, and Hurcame one of many on the Baltimore circuit. From 1773 to 1839 the church was served by 119 d preachers. Many of the same names are found on the list of pastors at Stone Chapel (Richard [Owings], John Haggerty, William Ryland, and Enoch George, among others). Over the next of the rapid growth of Methodism necessitated the division of the larger circuit into smaller ones at different times we find Hunt's included in the Summerfield circuit, the North Baltimore circuit Brooklandville circuit, and Hunt's circuit, with more than 50 different pastors at Hunt's. In Hunt's Church was finally authorized as a station. 1360

Much happened to this church in the period between the Civil War and the twentieth of In 1857 it had only 17 members, but 1858 saw a revival that added 38 new probationers. By the of 1867, however, membership was failing again. The church building was in need of repair; the gregation, church membership, and Sunday School were small as a result of the "unsettled confort the society made so by the Civil War." There was preaching only every other Sunday. About interest revived, and the minister of that time, the Reverend William A. Koontz, wrote the church was crowded at all the services and the conversions were numerous and of fine quality."

In 1872 a building committee was formed to construct a new church. The chairman was pastor, the Reverend William E. Bird; Lewis J. Roberts was secretary; other members included T



'muel Merryman (reputedly the first convert to Methodism in this locality) near Reisterstown Road /here Methodists were meeting from 1763 on), or at the home of Daniel Evans near Baltimore City ("one of the first preaching places in Baltimore County, dating from about 1764"). It is known that as early as 1773 Phineas Hunt's home was a preaching appointment, along with twenty-nine other places on the Baltimore circuit. In the present living room of this house, enlarged over the years, is a half-size funeral door through which it is said coffins could be moved in and out of the house. 121

According to the writings of the Reverend Henry Smith, pastor of Hunt's Church in 1806 and from 1833 to 1834, "from this appointment (Evan's) we went to Hunt's Meeting House, also an old stand, having been a preaching place before the M. E. Church was organized. Here Strawbridge and nearly, if not all, the first preachers who traveled in Maryland, had preached. The Hunts were among the first who 'believed and turned to the Lord' when they heard the Methodist preachers. If I do not mistake, Phineas Hunt had preaching at his house long before they built a meeting-house. . . ." Francis Asbury writes of preaching at Hunt's house on 3 September 1773. He also made three visits in 1777. 122

During these early years the Methodist preachers would visit a neighborhood and preach from one to three days. It might be months before they came again; so they would appoint someone as class leader to meet with the new society of believers at designated periods and act as their leader in spiritual matters. Phineas Hunt was made a class leader of the society which gathered in his home, a position he held throughout his life. He was affectionately known as Father Hunt by the members. 123

Various histories of Methodism contain praise of Phineas and Susanna Hunt's religious character and interests. "He was a counsellor of the youth, an exhorter to the sinner, an example to the Christians, a minister of peace to the sick and the dying." "P. Hunt was a man thoroughly imbued with Maryland hospitality and brotherly kindness. Sister Hunt was one of the neatest house-keepers, and all attention to the preachers, and their house could not fail of being one of the preachers' best homes.

Brother Hunt had the affections and confidence of his class, and indeed of all the neighbors. I er knew a man that loved to talk about experimental religion more than did Father Hunt."124

No portrait of the Hunts exists, but a description was offered in 1909 by Mrs. Rebecca A. Rider, a church member who remembered Hunt. She stated that he wore knee breeches, allowed his curly hair to grow long and fall about his shoulders, and that he was a man "noted for his piety, usefulness and liberality." <sup>125</sup>

Since the congregation had grown too large for his house, Phineas in 1780 gave part of his land for the erection of a log chapel. On 4 September 1785 Hunt's society, formed according to the directions of the Christmas Conference of 1784, officially bought the ground on which the chapel stood. Hunt conveyed the ¾ acre of Beall's Discovery to the trustees, William Stone, Samuel Hunt, Michael Kraner (or Kramer), Joshua Bowen, and Daniel Isgrig, in exchange for twenty shillings current money. In the deed, Phineas requested that the chapel be known as "Zoar," but apparently since he was so closely identified with the church his own name was used instead.<sup>126</sup>

Francis Asbury wrote of preaching at Hunt's Chapel twice in September 1787. The log building was actually just one large room which contained a back gallery used by slaves. The church faced Joppa Road and at this time was officially known as Hunt's Methodist Episcopal Church.<sup>127</sup>

Phineas' brother, Samuel Chew Hunt, also took an active role in the church, and both men worked with the Sunday School. A confirmatory deed of 15 December 1826 shows the brothers conveying one acre to the trustees of the church, Samuel Chew Hunt, John Kelso, Philemon Coale, Thomas Watts, and Wesley Coale. It was about this time that a second building was to be erected to take the place of the old log chapel which by then was unsuitable for the growing society, and the deed was probably drawn to correct an error in the original 1785 deed.<sup>128</sup>

Phineas Hunt died in 1837, his brother Samuel turn years later his wife in 1847 All three were burried in the Hunt family cometery beside the Hunt house not for from the Chur